

**INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Property/District Name: Jacob Rohrer House property Survey Number: WA-I-70

Project: demolition of garage Richard Weber owner Agency: S/MDE

Site visit by MHT Staff: X no yes Name Date

Eligibility recommended Eligibility **not** recommended X

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

Located at 20307 Trovinger Mill Rd., the Jacob Rohrer is the historic name of the property owned by Richard Weber. The domestic and agricultural building complex dates from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The main dwelling was originally constructed in 1752 with major alterations occurring in 1802 and 1922. The stone dwelling rises two stories and exhibits an early 20th century appearance. The agricultural buildings have all been stripped of their historic stone/wood materials and replaced with synthetic siding. The best example of this is the bank barn. The submitted photographs depict the original stone foundation with modern superstructure. Additional farm buildings consist mostly of insensitively treated historic buildings or modern inclusions. The integrity of the complex has been greatly compromised due to these alterations. The Jacob Rohrer property no longer conveys its historical appearance. I believe it does not meet the NR criteria.

N.B. The proposed undertaking will demolish the c.1818 "garage" to its first floor and replace the existing stone with metal siding, as has been done many of the agricultural buildings previously.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MD Inventory, compliance file

"Richard Weber Garage"

Prepared by: Paula Stoner Dickey/Richard Weber

Lauren Bowlin

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

10/07/97

Date

NR program concurrence: yes no not applicable

Reviewer, NR program

10/8/97
Date

Ging

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Eastern Shore	(all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Western Shore	(Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Piedmont	(Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Western Maryland	(Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Paleo-Indian	10000-7500 B.C.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Early Archaic	7500-6000 B.C.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Middle Archaic	6000-4000 B.C.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Late Archaic	4000-2000 B.C.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Early Woodland	2000-500 B.C.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Middle Woodland	500 B.C. - A.D. 900
<input type="checkbox"/>	Late Woodland/Archaic	A.D. 900-1600
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contact and Settlement	A.D. 1570-1750
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rural Agrarian Intensification	A.D. 1680-1815
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Agricultural-Industrial Transition	A.D. 1815-1870
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industrial/Urban Dominance	A.D. 1870-1930
<input type="checkbox"/>	Modern Period	A.D. 1930-Present
<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown Period (<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/> historic)	

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Subsistence
<input type="checkbox"/>	Settlement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Political
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demographic
<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion
<input type="checkbox"/>	Technology
<input type="checkbox"/>	Environmental Adaptation

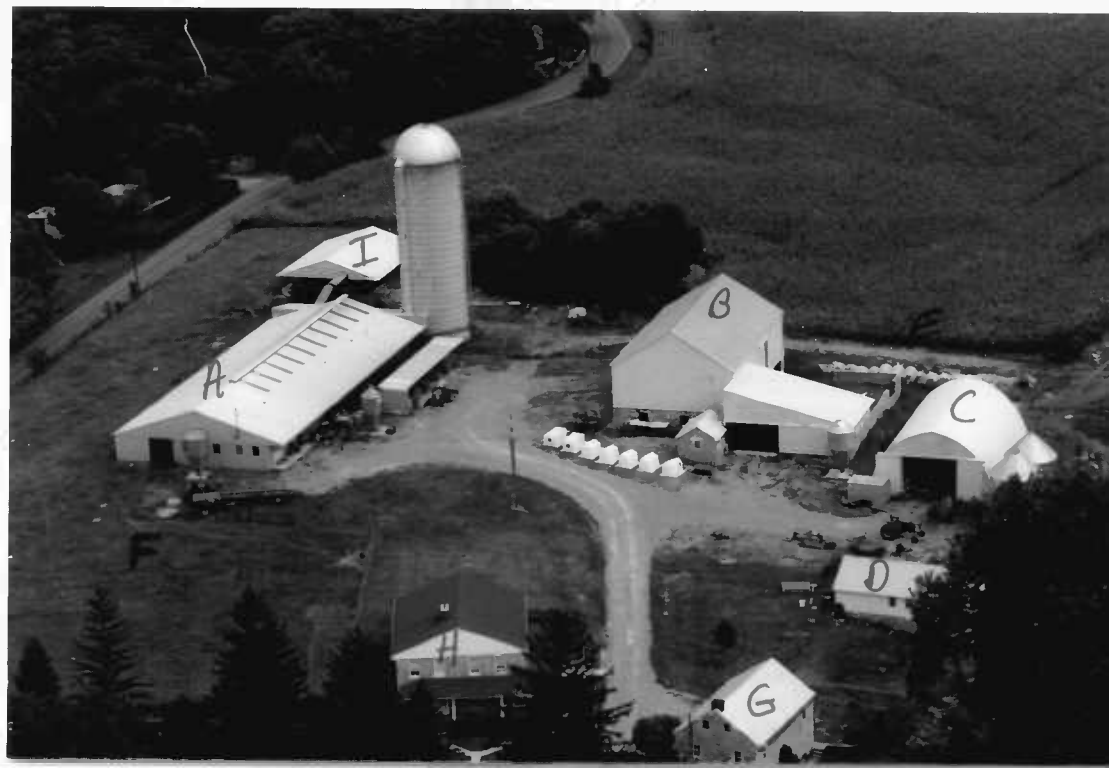
IV. Historic Period Themes:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
<input type="checkbox"/>	Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Government/Law
<input type="checkbox"/>	Military
<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion
<input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Educational/Cultural
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation

V. Resource Type:

Category: buildingsHistoric Environment: ruralHistoric Function(s) and Use(s): domestic and agricultural

Known Design Source: _____



JACOB ROHMER PROPERTY

WA-I-70

C. 1997

SITE PLAN



JACOB ROHIZER PROP.
WA-I-70

C. 1997

BARN



JACOB ROHMER PROP.

WA-I-70

C. 1997

GARAGE



JACOB ROHBER PROP

WA-I-70

C. 1997

GARAGE

ABSTRACT

WA-I-070

Jacob Rohrer House
Hagerstown vicinity
private

1752

Although drastically altered, this stone house dated 1752 is one of the oldest known examples of 18th century architecture in Washington County. It was presumably built by Jacob Rohrer who owned the property in the vicinity of this house as early as 1739 and who operated a gristmill which still stands near the house on the banks of the Antietam Creek. (See WA-I-071). Also near the house is an 18th century cemetery where members of the Rohrer family are buried.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

2200645204

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON: Jacob Rohrer House				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: Trovinger Mill Road, West of Chewsville				
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown Vicinity				
STATE Maryland		COUNTY: Washington		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		OWNERSHIP <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		STATUS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No				
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Religious _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific _____				
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: Dante Avon				
STREET AND NUMBER: 3540 Woodbine Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Chevy Chase		STATE: Maryland		20015
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Washington County Court House				
STREET AND NUMBER: West Washington Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown		STATE: Maryland		21740
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 521/350				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY:				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered > 50% <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered			<input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The "Jacob Rohrer House" is located on the east side of Trovinger Mill Road about one mile north of Maryland Route 64 in Washington County. It is situated on a gentle rise of ground and faces west, toward the Antietam Creek and toward the Trovinger Mill (WA-I-071).

The structure is a two story, four bay stone dwelling which shows extensive early twentieth century alterations. Three datestones presumably from this structure have been set in the south wall of the dwelling, near its east end. One stone is inscribed with the date 1752 and the initials F.R. Another bears the date 1802 and the initials J.B.R., while the third shows the date 1922.

A photograph of this house taken before the major alterations early in the twentieth century shows a four bay, two story structure with its roof running on a north-south axis rather than the present east-west orientation. The entire front of the house was sheltered by a double porch included under the main roof span. A large interior chimney projected from the roof ridge near its center. The old photograph indicates that the main entrance was located in the second bay from the north end of the facade. The house appears to have an extended roof in the rear, taking on a "salt box" shape.

Just south of the dwelling is a small stone building now used as a garage. Set in its east wall is a stone inscribed with the date 1818. It is situated directly over a spring and appears to have been a secondary dwelling. The remains of a stone wall, said by local historians to have been the foundation for a distillery, are located just south of the 1818 building.

East of the complex of buildings is a large frame bank barn. Situated on a hill behind the barn and surrounded by a dry stone wall is a cemetery where members of the Rohrer family are buried. Most of the tomb stones which could be read record death dates from the late 18th century.

The buildings on this property are in good condition. The cemetery is deteriorated. The property contains 120.63 acres.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE**PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☒ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) Dates, 1752, 1802, and 1922

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <u>Cemetery Provides</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | <u>Information About</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | <u>Early County</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | <u>Residents.</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The "Jacob Rohrer House" is significant primarily for its historical connection with the Rohrer family, early millers in Washington County. It should be noted secondarily for its architecture. Although altered almost beyond recognition it remains as one of the County's dated 18th century structures, few of which are in existence today. If the 1752 date inscribed in the stone set in the structure's east wall is correct, this house is the oldest dated structure to have been found in the County during this survey. The cemetery on the property is particularly important for the record it provides of early residents of this area.

This complex of buildings and the nearby mill (WA-I-071) stand on land which was part of a 817 acre tract called "Nancy's Contentment," patented to John Rohrer on May 10, 1768. Apparently, Nancy's Contentment included six smaller tracts which had been earlier grants to Jacob Rohrer. Among these six parcels were a ten acre tract, "Jacob's Welfare," granted in 1747; "Defiance," for 100 acres dated 1750 and "Addition to the Mill," a 30 acre tract patented in 1761. The name Addition to the Mill would suggest the presence of a milling operation at the time of that patent. Jacob Rohrer owned property on the banks of the Antietam as early as 1739. In a patent of 1747 reference is made to Jacob Rohrer's dwelling. The property was owned by Jacob Rohrer until 1817.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Spessard, Howard L., Notes compiled on Rohrer's Mill property.
Washington County Land Records.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 120.63 acres.

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant		DATE July 1975
ORGANIZATION Washington County Historical Sites Survey		
STREET AND NUMBER: Court House Annex		
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown	STATE Maryland	

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature _____

Liber Folio
521/350

April 20, 1971

Grantors: Harry D. Needy & Helen J. Needy

Grantees: Dante Avon & Erma M. Avon

Parcel # 1. 100 acres, 2 rods and 20 perches. Liber 150 Folio 708, 1917.

Parcel # 2. 11 acres and 90 perches.

Parcel # 3. 12 acres, 1888.

Liber Folio
150/708

March 27, 1917

Grantors: Albert T. Fiery & Mary E. Fiery

Grantee: Mary Catherine Needy

Parcel # 1. 100 acres, 2 rods and 20 perches

Parcel # 2. 12 acres.

\$5,500.

Liber Folio
96/629

March 31, 1891

Grantors: Wm. F. Unger & Henry F. Unger, Attorney's in Fact of Catherine Unger and others.

Grantee: Albert T. Fiery

Heirs of Frederick Unger

\$5,500.

Liber Folio
WMcKK6/406

April 4, 1874

Grantors: Wm. Hager & Wife

Grantee: Frederick Unger

... beginning at a stone standing on the south margin of the road leading from William Hager's Mill to the Hagerstown & Smithsburg turnpike,

Liber Folio
LBN1/464

May 8, 1866

Grantors: J. F. Smith & R. M. Alvey, Trustees for Samuel Horine

Grantee: Wm. Hager

"Resurvey on Downy's Lot," "Nancy's Contentment," 224 3/4 acres.

Liber Folio
IN9/472

December 26, 1853

Grantors: Joseph B. Loose & Martin Bachtell, Trustees.

Grantee: Samuel Horine

\$15,575.17 224 3/4 acres.

Liber Folio
CC/719

May 2, 1818

Grantor: Joseph Graff, Trustee for real estate of Jacob Rohrer, Sr.

Grantee: John Wolfersberger

Liber Folio
CC/402

November 12, 1817

Grantor: Jacob Rohrer Sr.

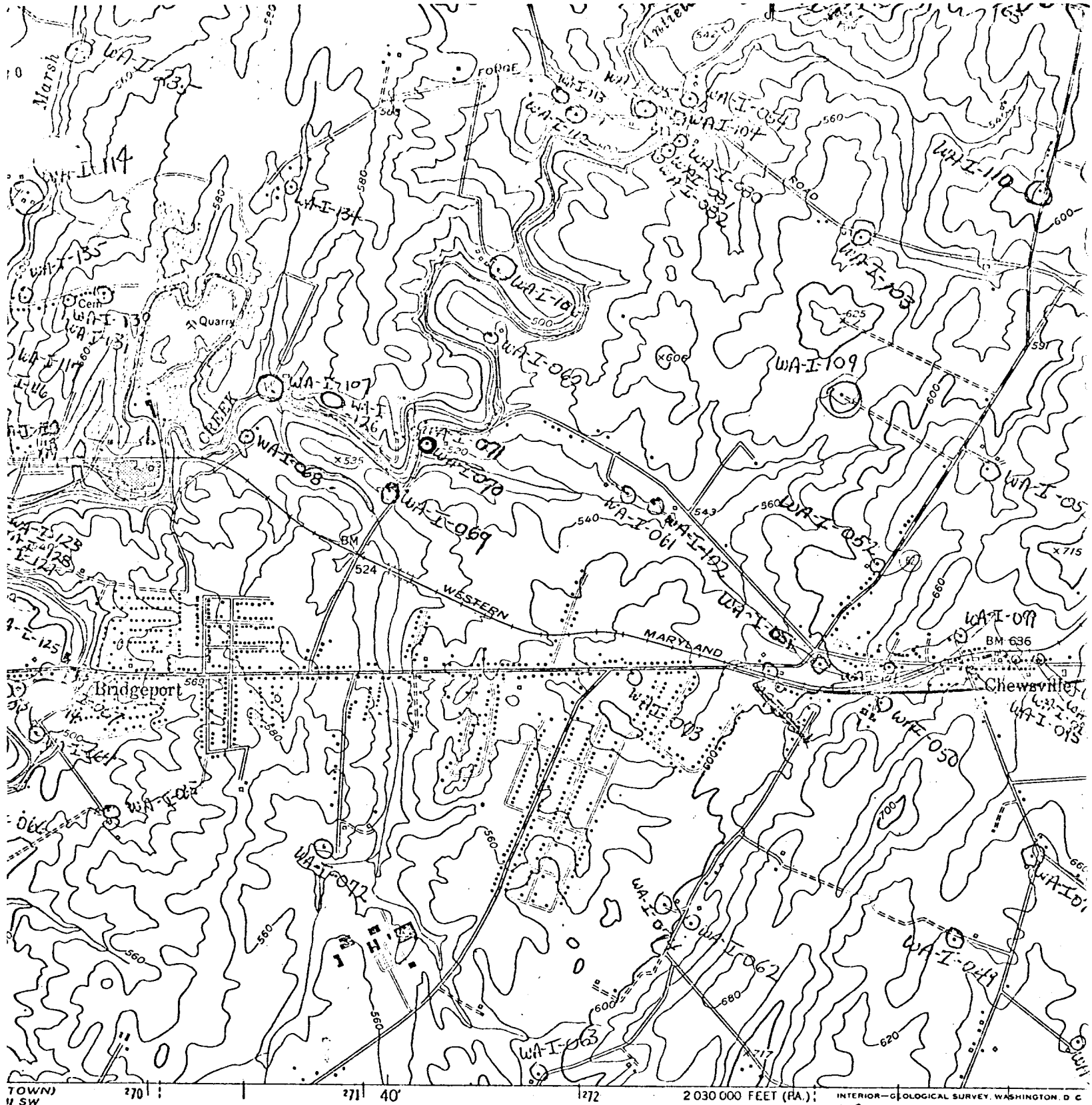
Grantee: Joseph Graff, Trustee

... Joseph will settle and adjust the various and complicated businesses of Jacob and in consideration of that the said Jacob will pay and satisfy the many debts due and owing by the said Jacob.

"Bear's Hole" 20 acres, "Darlin's Sale" 60 acres

"Nancy's Contentment" 817 acres, "Adln To Defiance" 113 acres,

"Clever" 23 1/2 acres, "Rorher Adln" 100 acres, "Rohrers Lot" 50 acres.



TOWN 11 SW 270 271 40' 272 2030 000 FEET (FA.)

24 000

1 MILE

0 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET

1 KILOMETER

RVAL 20 FEET
N SEA LEVEL

WA-I-070

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty 4 LANE 6 LANE Light-duty

Medium-duty 4 LANE 6 LANE Unimproved dir

U. S. Route State Route

Interstate Route

HAGERSTOWN, MD
NW/4 HAGERSTOWN 15' QUAD
N3937.5-W7737.5/7.

1953
PHOTO REVIS 1971

NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in purple compiled by Geological Survey from
aerial photographs taken 1971. This information not field checked
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas











11/1-11/15

11/1

11/1-11/15

Nov. 11/12

11/1-11/15

11/1-11/15

11/1-11/15



